



JEFFREY A. BRAUER PARTNER



Hahn Loeser & Parks LLP

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PRIMARY PRACTICES

Litigation

Class Action Litigation

Complex Commercial Litigation

Tort Litigation

Construction

Jeffrey A. Brauer focuses his practice on commercial litigation and construction law. Jeff regularly handles complex financial, engineering, and technical disputes in state and federal trial courts and arbitrations. Jeff is experienced in addressing potential claims from development through discovery, mediation, trial, and appeal.

Jeff represents entities involved in cryptocurrency transactions in litigation across the United States. Jeff also represents lenders, non-traditional lenders, secured creditors, general creditors, and debtors in various proceedings including bankruptcy, receiverships, commercial foreclosures, and collections. Jeff's experience and familiarity with these issues has aided his clients in not only getting judgments, but also collecting on judgments.

Jeff has represented owners, general contractors, subcontractors, and other construction professionals on construction matters for his entire career. Jeff works with clients at every stage of construction, bringing his experience to help clients avoid litigation, minimize risk, and resolve disputes early whenever possible. Jeff frequently advises insureds on construction insurance coverage issues. When trial work is necessary, Jeff has extensive construction experience before juries and arbitration panels. Jeff also serves as an arbitrator and brings the perspective he has developed from this work to help his clients.

REPRESENTATIVE EXPERIENCE

- Representation of a general contractor in a highly contested claim that it was wrongfully terminated by a steel mill on a multimillion-dollar project. Following a three-and-a-half week jury trial, the jury found in favor of Hahn Loeser's client, awarding \$3.5 million and rejecting the steel mill's counterclaims
- Representation of an owner in a multimillion-dollar claim for improper work by a general contractor in the conversion of a long-abandoned warehouse into luxury apartments. The dispute involved engineering disputes about roofing, drainage, elastomeric concrete coating, masonry installation, window installation and HVAC design. After Hahn Loeser's client presented its case in chief over two weeks to a jury, the matter was resolved on confidential terms.
- Representation of parties in a business divorce. The matter arose following the buyout of a former owner's interest, who retained certain leasehold and income rights of the operating company. The matter was resolved on confidential terms.
- Resolution of a performance bond claim against an electrical subcontractor by a contractor in a nationally significant and time-sensitive public project. This matter was resolved on confidential terms.
- Enforcement of a foreign judgment for a large out-of-state investment bank against a highly visible public figure who took great care to protect assets. The matter was resolved on confidential terms.
- Representation of a receiver in an action in which a tenant of the receivership property surreptitiously engaged in criminal activity, including converting the property to a dump site and ultimately

- destroying property. All claims were dismissed against the receiver.
- Representation of several purchasers of secured debt in dozens of matters located throughout Ohio, frequently involving complex and novel means of collection avoidance, including frequent use and abuse of bankruptcy proceedings in an effort to stall foreclosure and collection efforts. The matters often involved the use of receivers in an effort to protect collateral and provide greater leverage against borrowers.
 - Representation of an agricultural lender in a string of matters involving dairy farms throughout the Midwest. The matters involved related guarantors who structured loans to make collection challenging. These matters posed additional complexity because the health of the primary collateral – the livestock – had to be maintained. The matters frequently were litigated in bankruptcy court.

BAR ADMISSIONS

- State of Ohio, 1998
- State of Illinois, 1994
- U.S. District Courts for the Northern District of Ohio, Southern District of Ohio, Northern District of Illinois, Central District of Illinois, Eastern District of Michigan, Western District of Michigan, Western District of Pennsylvania, Southern District of Indiana, Western District of Tennessee, and Southern District of Texas
- U.S. Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit
- U.S. Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit

EDUCATION

- Vanderbilt University School of Law, J.D., 1994
- Vanderbilt Moot Court Board, Associate Justice; American Jurisprudence Award in Professional Responsibility; Firm Giving Program Representative, 2008-present (100% participating firm)
- Northwestern University, B.S., Communications, 1990

AWARDS & HONORS

- The Best Lawyers in America®, Commercial Litigation, 2021-25, Appellate Practice, 2024-25
- Ohio Super Lawyers®, Construction Litigation, 2014-20
- Top Rated Lawyer, Cleveland's Legal Leaders, 2012-16
- Ohio State Bar Foundation Community Service Award for Attorneys 40 and Under, statewide winner, 2009
- AV Preeminent®, Martindale-Hubbell
- National Institute for Trial Advocacy, National Session, July 2003

PUBLICATIONS & SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS

- Ethics for Construction Attorneys

MEMBERSHIPS & AFFILIATIONS

- American Arbitration Association, Roster of Arbitrators and Construction Panel, 2016-present
- Alliot Global Alliance, Member, Litigation/Dispute Resolution Specialty Practice Group



- Cuyahoga County Court of Common Pleas. Arbitrator and Mediator, 2015-present
- American Bar Association, TIPS: Business Litigation Committee, Chair, 2016-17 – Exceptional Achievement and Fellowship Awards; Vice Chair, 2007-present; Corporate Counsel Committee, Vice Chair 2013-present; Outreach to Young Lawyers Committee, Vice Chair, 2008-13; Membership Committee, Vice Chair, 2005-11; Law in Public Service Committee, Vice Chair, 2005-08; Fidelity and Surety Law Committee, Member, 2005-08; TIPS Now!, Fellow, 2006-08
- Ohio State Bar Association, Council of Delegates, elected 2005-present; Membership Committee, 2011-13; Committee and Section Advisory Council, 2011-12
- Cleveland Metropolitan Bar Association, Board of Directors, 2019-2022; Ethics and Professionalism Committee, Chair, 2017-18; Litigation Section, Council, 2011-present
- Association of Professional Responsibility Lawyers, 2014-present
- Cleveland Bar Foundation, Fellow, 2022-present
- Ohio State Bar Foundation, Life Fellow; Board of Trustees, 2017-present; Membership Committee, 2012-present

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

- Fine Arts Association of Willoughby, President of Board of Directors, 2015-17, Board of Directors, 2007-present
- Wills for Heroes, Ohio Founder and Statewide Coordinator, 2007-14
- Lake County Dances Under the Stars, Celebrity Dancer, 2010
- Charenton Theater Company, Founding Board Member
- Northwestern University Alumni Association of Cleveland, Alumni Admissions Council, 2002-present

PROFESSIONAL HISTORY

- Partner, Hahn Loeser & Parks LLP, 2004-present; Associate, 1998-2003; Cleveland Litigation Area Co-Chair, 2021-present; Ethics Committee Chair, 2013-present; Pro Bono Committee Chair, 2007-2022
- Associate, Williams & Montgomery, Ltd., 1994-98

PERSONAL

Jeff is married and lives in Kirtland, Ohio with his wife and their three sons. Jeff likes to be outside whenever possible, running when the weather is warm, and skiing when the weather is cold. Jeff is also always in the middle of a do-it-himself home construction project.